is given to few of us to become. She has enjoyed the friendship of kings and princes as well as of the flower of the artistic world, and her books sell by tens of thousands in France.

My friend Edouard de Max described her as a very charming woman, far above her *metier*,, and in intellect of course far beyond the average woman of the great world, otherwise she would never have attained her position in that half world over which she has reigned supreme so long.

We are told by a great authority that the merit of originality is sincerity, not novelty,

Is that why the originality of one who has had courage empresses have envied appeals to one at every turn ? She who never permits clocks in her apartments where one is expected to forget the flight of time. But beyond that she has a heart, which few women in society can afford to have. She is a devoted mother, and she has known the passion and the sacrifices of love. It is these qualities, combined with that greatest gift of

personal magnetism which all my varied collection of celebrities have in common, which has given her power.

At the time when I met her, the brother

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